

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 04426 171855Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01 EA-07 AID-05

(ISO)W

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R 171821Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8428

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 4426

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, NU

SUBJECT: GON OFFICIAL REFLECTS ON ANTI-ZIONISM VOTE

1. VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HARRY BODAN SHIELDS WELCOMED WORDS OF APPRECIATION FROM EMBOFF ON GON PERFORMANCE IN UN THUS FAR (KOREA, ANTI-ZIONISM) IN INTERVIEW NOVEMBER 13. BODAN REVEALED THAT GON'S NEARLY IMMACULATE PRO-ISRAEL RECORD (THEY MADE A "MISTAKE" AND VOTED TO INVITE ARAFAT LAST YEAR) WAS BEING CONTINUED IN THE FACE OF WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS GROWING PRESSURE FROM NICARAGUA'S NUMEROUS ARAB COMMUNITY. HE STATED THAT NICARAGUA WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE TAKEN A MORE NEUTRALIST POSITION ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM, HOWEVER THE ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTION DEMANDED NOT A POLITICAL, BUT A MORAL AND ETHICAL RESPONSE. HE INQUIRED WHETHER THE US WAS PLANNING ANY REPRISALS AGAINST LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHICH VOTED HOSTILELY. EMBOFF REPLIED HE DID NOT KNOW, BUT  
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PAGE 02 MANAGU 04426 171855Z

PRESUMABLY THEIR VOTES WOULD NOT ENDEAR THEM TO US PUB-

LIC OPINION.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NICARAGUA'S JEWISH COMMUNITY IS TINY, ARAB LOBBY HERE HAS BEEN MORE THAN OFFSET BY THE INFLUENCE OF THE SIZABLE NUMBER OF PROMINENT CATHOLIC FAMILIES WHO CLAIM JEWISH ROOTS AND WHO HAVE GIVEN ISRAEL STRONG SUPPORT. BODAN, WHO IS PROBABLY OF ARAB ANCESTRY HIMSELF, HAS NEVER BEEN NOTICEABLY SYMPATHETIC TO NICARAGUA'S TRADITIONAL PRO-ISRAEL POSITION, AND HAS EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO HAVE A GREATER AMOUNT OF FLEXIBILITY ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT THAN THAT ALLOWED THE FONMIN. BUT SOMOZA, WHO HAS BOASTED TO US OF HIS FATHER'S GUN-RUNNING TO BRITISH PALESTINE AND WHO SEES THE SURVIVAL OF ISRAEL AS A TEST OF WESTERN ETHICS, IS UNLIKELY TO GIVE MUCH GROUND ON THE ISSUE.  
WARNER

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## Message Attributes

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